

RECREATION TRAIL AND WALKWAY

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 568



DEFINITION

A recreation trail and walkway is a pathway prepared especially for pedestrian, equestrian, and cycle travel.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purpose of the practice is to provide users of recreation areas with travel routes for activities such as walking, sightseeing, horseback riding, and bicycling. The purpose (s) also include erosion control, protection of the natural resources, and aesthetics.

Planning this practice includes saving trees and other vegetation that provide shade, reduce erosion, provide wildlife food and cover, and add to the scenic value of the area. Other considerations include using judgment in regard to grades, widths, drainage, sideslopes of cuts and fills, and other criteria effecting stability of the pathway.

Erosion control provisions include proper layout and establishing vegetation or mulching all disturbed areas. If bridges are needed, designs should always consider maximum expected loading with an adequate safety factor.

If surfacing is required or desired to firm the trail, a variety of material is available and the decision is generally based on economic considerations.

Safety considerations include protection from slides and falling rocks. If needed, directional and warning signs will be installed. Handrails, bridges and culverts will be installed as dictated by the site conditions and intended use.

Additional information including design criteria and specifications are filed in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

The following pages contain the conservation effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

CONSERVATION PRACTICE PHYSICAL EFFECT WORKSHEET

NOTE: recorded in Microsoft word 6.0 - use tabs to change cells/fields

STATE	Iowa	FIELD OFFICE		DATE	12/5/96
PRACTICE: 568 Recreation Trail and Walkway			NOTES:		
RESOURCE: SOIL RESOURCE CONCERN: EROSION			Help Message: Click on form field for choice lists. Tab key to move around. "N/A" is the default.		
RESOURCE INDICATORS			PHYSICAL EFFECTS		
SHEET AND RILL			situational concerning sheet and rill erosion		
WIND			N/A		
EPHEMERAL GULLY			situational concerning ephemeral gullies		
CLASSIC GULLY			N/A		
STREAMBANK			slight reduction in streambank erosion		
IRRIGATION INDUCED			N/A		
SOIL MASS MOVEMENT			N/A		
ROADBANK/CONSTRUCTION			N/A		
OTHER					
RESOURCE CONCERN: SOIL CONDITION					
SOIL TILTH			N/A		
SOIL COMPACTION			N/A		
SOIL CONTAMINATION					
• SALTS			N/A		
• ORGANICS			N/A		
• FERTILIZERS			N/A		
• PESTICIDES			N/A		
• OTHER					
DEPOSITION/DAMAGE					
• ONSITE			N/A		
• OFFSITE			N/A		
DEPOSITION/SAFETY					
• ONSITE			N/A		
• OFFSITE			N/A		
OTHER					
RESOURCE: WATER RESOURCE CONCERN: WATER QUANTITY					
SEEPS			N/A		
RUNOFF/FLOODING			insignificant		
EXCESS SUBSURFACE WATER			N/A		
INADEQUATE OUTLETS			N/A		
WATER MGT. IRRIGATION					
• SURFACE			N/A		
• SPRINKLER			N/A		
WATER MGT. NON-IRRIGATED			N/A		
RESTRICTED FLOW CAPACITY (H2O convey.)					
• ONSITE			N/A		
• OFFSITE			N/A		
RESTRICTED STORAGE			N/A		
OTHER					

RESOURCE: WATER	
RESOURCE CONCERN: WATER QUALITY	
RESOURCE INDICATORS	PHYSICAL EFFECTS
GROUNDWATER CONTAMINANTS	
• PESTICIDES	N/A
• NUTRIENTS AND ORGANICS	N/A
• SALINITY	N/A
• HEAVY METALS	N/A
• PATHOGENS	N/A
• OTHER	
SURFACE WATER CONTAMINANTS	
• PESTICIDES	N/A
• NUTRIENTS AND ORGANICS	N/A
• SUSPENDED SEDIMENTS	insignificant
• LOW DISSOLVED OXYGEN	N/A
• SALINITY	N/A
• HEAVY METALS	N/A
• WATER TEMPERATURE	N/A
• PATHOGENS	N/A
AQUATIC HABITAT SUITABILITY	insignificant
OTHER	
RESOURCE: AIR	
RESOURCE CONCERN: AIR QUALITY	
AIRBORNE SEDIMENT AND SMOKE PARTICLES	
• ONSITE SAFETY	N/A
• OFFSITE SAFETY	N/A
• ONSITE STRUCT. PROBLEMS	N/A
• OFFSITE STRUCT. PROBLEMS	N/A
• ONSITE HEALTH	N/A
• OFFSITE HEALTH	N/A
AIRBORNE SEDIMENT CAUSING CONVEYANCE PROBLEMS	N/A
AIRBORNE CHEMICAL DRIFT	N/A
AIRBORNE ODORS	N/A
FUNGI, MOLDS, AND POLLEN	N/A
OTHER	
RESOURCE CONCERN: AIR CONDITION	
AIR TEMPERATURE	N/A
AIR MOVEMENT (windbreak effect)	N/A
HUMIDITY	N/A
OTHER	

[illegible]

RESOURCE: HUMAN	
RESOURCE CONCERN: SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS	
RESOURCE INDICATORS	PHYSICAL EFFECTS
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY	mod. improvement in public health & safety
PRIVATE/PUBLIC VALUES	sign. improvement in private/public values
CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS	N/A
RISK TOLERANCE	N/A
TENURE	N/A
OTHER	
RESOURCE CONCERN: CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS	
ABSENCE/PRESENCE OF CULTURAL RESOURCES	situational regarding cultural resources
SIGNIFICANCE OF CULTURAL RESOURCES	situational regarding cultural resources
MITIGATION OF NEGATIVE CULTURAL RES. IMPACTS	situational regarding cultural resources
OTHER	